

FAKE SCIENCE AND PREDATORY PUBLISHING

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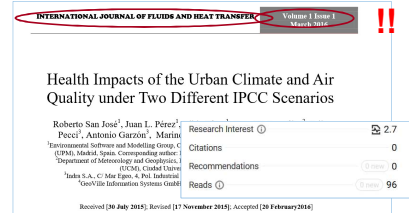
CONTENT

- › Introduction
- › Characteristics of dubious publishers and journals
- › Consequences of Predatory Publishing
- › Relevance of Predatory Publishing for Universities and Research Institutions
- › Tools to avoid Fake Science

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EXAMPLE 1

- › Article with data from a EU research project
- › Submission by project partner in predatory journal



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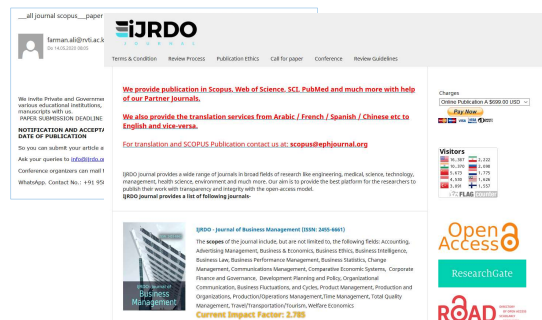
EXAMPLE 2

- › Fake Conference Invitation



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EXAMPLE 3



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CHARACTERISTICS OF FAKE PUBLISHERS AND JOURNALS I

- › Intended similarity to serious journals, through a professional website or specific elements, or by a similar sounding name of a well-known journal
- › **Cover letter/ Invitation to publish:**
- › Very general form of address („Dear esteemed author/ professor etc.“)
- › Journal does not fit into your area of expertise
- › Suspicious contact details (Post address, email)

CHARACTERISTICS OF FAKE PUBLISHERS AND JOURNALS II

Journal itself:

- › Very general title (eg International, World, Global, etc)
- › Title often very similar to a well-known journal
- › ISSN or DOI does not exist or can be faked (sometimes additional APCs may be charged)
- › Impact Factor is faked or invented
- › Very broad scope of topics
- › Substandard layout of articles

CHARACTERISTICS OF FAKE PUBLISHERS AND JOURNALS III

Website:

- › Grammar and layout of site are badly done
- › Website does only address authors, not readers
- › Suspicious contact data (Post address does not exist; email addresses from free providers)
- › Texts and downloadable material often copied from reputable journals

CHARACTERISTICS OF FAKE PUBLISHERS AND JOURNALS IV

Manuscript submission:

- › Submission by mail instead of online system
- › Very short time span between submission and publication
- › No exact information regarding peer review and article processing charges

POSSIBILITIES TO CHECK RELIABILITY

- › Scopus
- › Web of Science
- › Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ)
- › Open Access Scholarly Publishers Association (OASPA)
- › Quality Open Access Market (QOAM)
- › **Nota bene: Be aware that fake journals may try to imitate or infiltrate quality criteria**

OTHER PHENOMENA OF PREDATORY PUBLISHING

- › Call for Papers (Journals, Conferences)
- › Call for Editors, Call for Reviewers
- › Unasked mentioning as Editor (Journals) or Keynote Speaker (Conferences)
- › Use of fake journals to spread contestable theories

CONSEQUENCES OF PREDATORY PUBLISHING I

What are the main problems of predatory publishing?

- › Lack of quality control
- › Low visibility and trackability of articles
- › Longterm availability of articles is not guaranteed
- › Risk and damage for one's own scientific career and reputation

CONSEQUENCES OF PREDATORY PUBLISHING II

- › Damage of university's reputation
- › Support of illicit business models and practices
- › Insecurity of the reliability of research results

TOOLS TO AVOID FAKE SCIENCE TRAPS

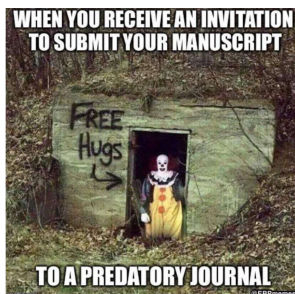
- › Think-Check-Act-Submit
- › Think
- › Check
- › Submit
- › <https://thinkchecksubmit.org/>



LINKS AND FURTHER HINTS

- › <https://www.scopus.com>
- › <https://webofknowledge.com/WOS>
- › <https://doaj.org>
- › <https://oaspa.org>
- › <https://www.qoam.eu>
- › <http://www.issn.org>
- › <https://www2.cabells.com> (not licensed at TUW)
- › <https://thinkchecksubmit.org/>
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THANKS FOR YOUR ATTENTION!



QUESTIONS?

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- › <http://www.ub.tuwien.ac.at/fachreferate.php>